GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3213
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2001
MINES SAFETY MEASURES
SANJAY PASWAN

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the role of the Directorate General of Mines Security to check the accidents in mines and in respect of mines safety;

(b) whether the aforesaid Directorate has failed to serve the purpose for which it had been created;

(c) if so, whether Government are considering to wind up this Directorate in view of its non utility;

(d) if so, by when; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL)

(a): Provisions for safety of persons employed in mines are contained in the Mines Act, 1952 and the Rules and Regulations framed thereunder. The Directorate General of Mines Safety Dhanbad (DGMS) also issues guidelines in the form of circulars to the Management for improving safety measures. These provisions are required to be complied with by the mine managements. The officers of the DGMS inspect the mines periodically to oversee the status of compliance with the safety provisions andto take action as provided for under the Mines Act, 1952 in case of default. The objective of DGMSis the reduction in risk of occupational diseases and casualty to persons employed in mines by drafting appropriate legislation and setting standards, by overseeing compliance thereof and through a variety of promotional initiatives and awareness programmes creating an environment in which safety is given due priority. Besides the legislative measures the DGMS is promoting a number of other initiatives, such as:-

(a) Conference on Safety in mines,
(b) Self-regulation by management,
(c) Workers` participation in safety management,
(d) Tripartite and Bipartite reviews at various levels,

(e) Training of work persons,
(f) Observance of safety weeks and Safety Campaigns,
(g) National Safety Awards.

(b): No, Sir.

(c) & (d): Does not arise.

(e): The fact that DGMS is achieving its objectivesis clear from the reduction in the number of mine accidents over the last few decades and the fact that death in Indian Mines compare favorably with those of other countries, including quite a few developed countries.